

Board of Health Press Release – 3/24/2020

The Town of Stoneham will be issuing up to date press releases as new information becomes available. The Board of Health continues to monitor all reports as they are delivered from the MAVEN electronic reporting database in use by the MDPH.

Per orders from Gov. Baker, no gatherings of more than 25 people are allowed at this time, and all restaurants have been limited to take-out and delivery services only, with no on-site consumption being permitted. As of 3/17/2020, all presumptive and confirmed cases of COVID-19 shall be counted towards the total state-wide case count. We implore all residents to exercise proper social distancing by employing a 6' minimum distance between each other, refraining from handshakes and other physical contact, and limiting non-essential activities. At this time, no restrictions have been placed on going outdoors for exercise, walking pets, etc, but again please abide by these social distancing guidelines.

****UPDATE 3/23/2020** - *As of Tuesday, 3/24/2020, Gov. Baker has issued an emergency Stay-At-Home Advisory until April 7, 2020. All non-essential businesses have been ordered to close their physical operation. Essential businesses that have been identified in the [MDPH Essential Services List](#) are to remain open. At this time, we ask that all residents exercise these extended social distancing steps that have been taken by the State of Massachusetts in order to flatten the curve regarding the COVID-19 infection rate. Please refer to the CDC and MDPH websites for further information as it becomes available.***

****Update 3/19/2020** - *The Town of Stoneham understands that at this time, there are many displaced students and other individuals that have returned home during this uncertain time, and as such, may find difficulty parking. Effective immediately, the Stoneham Police Department has suspended all overnight parking enforcement and asks that all residents be mindful of neighbors and public ways during this temporary suspension of enforcement.***

We ask residents to call ahead to Town departments if they are required to conduct essential Town-related business and refrain from unnecessary visiting, should phone and electronic communications be sufficient. **As of 3/17/2020, Town Hall will be operating on a reduced schedule, with no access to the general public, except by appointment.** We ask that all residents remain vigilant in doing their part to limit the spread of COVID-19.

Please continue to refer to the Town website for more information regarding closures and up-to-date information regarding COVID-19 as we monitor this rapidly evolving situation.

Note Regarding Senior Center Services:

The SSC continues to provide transportation to grocery stores, pharmacies and food pantries on an as-needed basis during the hours of 8:30a - 4p Monday through Friday. Additionally, the SSC will be beginning a grocery-furnishing services to at-risk populations in need. Residents are welcome to contact the SSC by phone at 781-438-1157 to coordinate services, seek additional resources, or simply speak to staff regarding their general concern. As a reminder, the SSC will continue to remain closed to the general public, but the Town of Stoneham will continue to provide services that protect the health and well-being of our residents and we will continue to encourage the community to support each other in light of this rapidly evolving situation.

If you are interested in donating your time towards a volunteer effort, please contact Steve Angelo, Director of Volunteer Fulfillment at 781-279-2621 or by email at sangelo@stoneham-ma.gov

Thank you for your continued vigilance and steadfast precaution.